

Information Disclosure Statement

1. The information disclosure statement filed 4/6/2011 fails to comply with 37 CFR 1.98(a)(1), which requires the following: (1) a list of all patents, publications, applications, or other information submitted for consideration by the Office; (2) U.S. patents and U.S. patent application publications listed in a section separately from citations of other documents; (3) the application number of the application in which the information disclosure statement is being submitted on each page of the list; (4) a column that provides a blank space next to each document to be considered, for the examiner's initials; and (5) a heading that clearly indicates that the list is an information disclosure statement. The information disclosure statement has been placed in the application file, but the information referred to therein has not been considered.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Ryan Schneider on 8/24/2011.

The application has been amended as follows:

- I) In claim 1, in the second line, please delete the phrase "having good moisture permeability and".
- II) In claim 1, in section "c)" of the claim, after the phrase "a different shape,", please add the phrase "wherein the different pattern shape is a border, the external dimensions of which correspond to the dimensions of a use product, which it is desired to form from the multilayer material by dividing up the latter,".
- III) In claim 1, in the second to last phrase, after the term "wherein" and before the term "no", please add the term "optionally,"
- IV) Please cancel claim 4.
- V) In claim 7, in the first line of the claim, please delete the term "it" found before "comprises" and after "wherein" and replace with "the multilayer material".
- VI) In claim 8, in the second line, please delete the phrase "having good moisture permeability and".
- VII) In claim 8, after the term "underpad", in the last line of the claim, please add a comma and the following, "wherein the pattern in which the adhesive composition is applied is selected from:
 - a) a dot lining pattern,
 - b) separately positioned pattern parts which are separated by regions where there is no adhesive composition,
 - c) a number of pattern parts (4, 22) which are identical in shape and one or more pattern parts (21) of a different shape, wherein the different pattern

shape is a border, the external dimensions of which correspond to the dimensions of a use product, which it is desired to form from the multilayer material by dividing up the latter,

- d) the patterns described under b and/or c), with one or more pattern parts being formed from a dot lining pattern,
- e) a dot lining pattern as described under a) in which there are parts without any dots,

and combinations of the patterns described under a) to e)."

- VIII) Please cancel claims 19, 22-27, and 32-33.
- IX) In claim 15, in lines 3, 4, and 5, please delete the term "a" that appears before "moisture-permeable", "moisture-impermeable", and "moisture-absorption", and add the term "the" for proper antecedent basis.
- X) In claim 20, please delete the phrase "The method according to claim 19" and replace with "The method according to claim 15".
- XI) In claims 28 and 29, please delete the phrase "The multilayer assembly" in the first lines of each claim and replace with "The multilayer material" for each claim.

Reason for Allowance

2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: the present claims are found to be allowable over the closest prior art of Goyarts (**CA 2413921**), Hahn et al. (**US 5306267**), Levy (**US 5114418**), Mesek et al. (**US 4045833**), and

McIntyre et al. (**US 4911948**). Goyarts discloses a washable bed pad that is comprised of the same elements. However, it is noted that Goyarts specifically teaches away from the present invention wherein the adhesive cannot be on both surfaces (*see p. 10, lines 28-32*). Hahn et al. disclose a reusable diaper comprised of wicking fabric, moisture absorption layer, and moisture impermeable layer. Further, Hahn discloses that only the wicking fabric and moisture impermeable layer are joined together. However, Hahn is silent to the adhesive bonding to the moisture absorption layer and that the fabric is hydrophobic. Levy discloses placing adhesives between the first and second layers and the second and third layers. However, Levy is silent to the amount of adhesive and also at least one component being hydrophobic. As shown by the affidavits filed 12/17/2010, the amount of adhesive at the interface for each layer allows for the effects as presently claimed. Mesek discloses patterning of adhesive but does not teach the material for washable bed pads. McIntyre discloses a process of applying hot melt adhesives to moving web substrates but is silent to the presently claimed bed pad. The references either alone or together would not fairly teach the present invention. As such, the claims are considered novel and not obvious over the prior art as shown above.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to PRASHANT J. KHATRI whose telephone number is (571)270-3470. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 9:00 A.M.-5:00 P.M. (First Friday Off).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David Sample can be reached on (571) 272-1376. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

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